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RCE 11774 \$

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/926,432
Applicant : Von Drach
Filed : 12/31/01
TC/A.U. : 1774
Examiner : C. S. Thompson

Docket No. : VOND3002JDB
Customer No. : 23364

Confirmation No.: 3103

RECEIVED
DEC 04 2003
TC 1700

**TRANSMITTAL ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22202-3514

Sir:

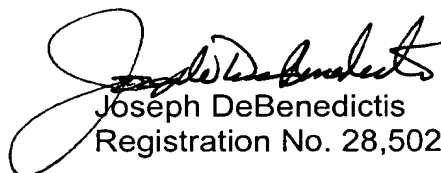
Examiner Thompson informed the below-signed attorney during a telephone conversation on November 24, 2003, that she will speak to her supervisor concerning the propriety of the finality of the last office action (i.e., the office action dated July 28, 2003). The below signed attorney has been unable to obtain an answer from the examiner despite numerous phone calls made to her.

The accompanying request for continued examination is obviously unnecessary in the event that the examiner determines that the finality of the last office action should be withdrawn. However, applicant now finds it necessary to file a request for continued examination along with a petition for a one month extension of time. In view of the above, applicant reserves the right to a refund for the fees paid in connection with the accompanying request for continued examination and petition for an extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 26, 2003

BACON & THOMAS
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
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Joseph DeBenedictis
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